



PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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CANDIDATE FOUND IN VIOLATION OF PUBLIC DISCLOSURE ACT

Olympia – Chair of the Public Disclosure Commission, Mike Connelly, found **Don Anderson**, candidate for Okanogan County Prosecutor in 2002, in violation of provisions of the Open Government Act during brief enforcement hearings held Thursday in Olympia.

Connelly cited Anderson for using the facilities of the Okanogan County Prosecutor's Office to promote his candidacy by producing press releases and letters soliciting political endorsements. Anderson was assessed a civil penalty of \$250.

In issuing his ruling at the hearing, Connelly said government officials have a fiduciary responsibility to the taxpayers which includes stewardship over government facilities.

"The law is clear," Connelly said. "Government resources cannot be used to support or oppose candidates or ballot measures."

The documents prepared by Mr. Anderson using Okanogan County resources included a candidate resume, a written biography, a May 2, 2002, press release announcing his candidacy, and two letters sent to organizations requesting endorsements for his campaign.